

Littlethorpe Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Littlethorpe Village Hall

at 19:30 on Monday 30 April 2018

Present: Cllr Spoons (Chair), Cllr Winterburn, Cllr Gray, Cllr Orme, District Cllr Galloway, County Cllr Harrison, 8 electors, two invited speakers, and David Duthie (Clerk).

- 1 Apologies Apologies were received from Peter Moss and James Hutcheson
- 2 Adoption of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 24 April 2017 as a true and accurate report was proposed by Cllr Winterburn, seconded by Cllr Gray and carried unanimously.
- 3 Chairman's report The Chairman began by welcoming all present to the Littlethorpe Annual Parish Meeting and made the distinction between this and a Parish Council Meeting.
 - .1 The Parish Council
 - a All agendas and minutes of Littlethorpe Parish Council are available on the Harrogate Borough Council website:
https://www.harrogate.gov.uk/downloads/download/129/littlethorpe_parish_council_documents. Agenda and minutes of the most recent meeting are also available on the Littlethorpe Village website: <http://www.littlethorpe-northyorkshire.co.uk/parish-council>.
 - b Since the last Annual Parish Meeting, the Parish Council has met 6 times.
 - c Following the retirement of John Edmonstone from the Parish Council, Christopher Orme joined the council and has made already valuable contributions.
 - d Keith Pettitt relinquished the position of Clerk and was replaced by David Duthie, who lives within the Parish.
 - e All 5 Parish Councillors were returned unopposed. Therefore, there will be no Littlethorpe Parish Council elections on 3 May 2018, but there will still be an election for a new District Councillor.
 - f Comments were made on all planning applications within the Parish boundary, notified to the Parish Council under Harrogate Borough Council planning consultation. There were applications for two large housing developments, one for 400 houses at West Lane, and another for 150 houses at Bellwood Farm. The Parish Council opposed both as they would markedly change the character of the village. The result of the public enquiry into the West Lane development is awaited, and a decision by the end of April for the Bellwood Farm development is anticipated. Extensive building to the South and East of the Ripon bypass is opposed.
 - g Representatives are sent to:
 - i Village Hall Committee – Jackie Laugher
 - ii Entertainments Committee – Chris Winterburn
 - iii Alderman Spence Committee – Annie Gray
 - iv Ripon City Quarry Restoration/Aftercare Committee – Gerry Spoons
 - h Standing orders have been revised to comply with local government legislation.
 - i Financial regulations have similarly been revised.
 - j To comply with general data protection regulations, the Clerk was appointed as Data Protection Officer. Since then, a Government amendment to the Government's own bill will not require Parish Councils to have a Data Protection Officer.

Clerk: David Duthie, Pottery Lane Farm, Pottery Lane, Littlethorpe, RIPON, HG4 3LS

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- k Snowdrops were planted on the 'triangle' at Little Crossing. Despite being planted late in the season, some appeared at the end of winter.
- .2 Railway Feasibility Study
The Parish Council called a public meeting at which there was unanimous opposition to there being a feasibility study for re-opening the Harrogate – Ripon railway line passing through the parish. The proposal to spend public money on a feasibility study has since receded
- 4 Questions from the floor
- .1 John Edmonstone asked why the Parish Council response to the development of 5 houses on Littlethorpe Lane did not include an objection to building on the protected path of the old Harrogate to Ripon railway line. Cllr Harrison explained that protected paths may be interrupted to avoid claims for planning blight.
- 5 Entertainments Committee – Chris Winterburn
Functions were held usually in the village hall. There had been two quiz nights. The Village barbecue will be on 14 July at Southfold. On 27 October, a theatre company will play the John Godber play, Happy Jack. Permission will have to be sought to use people's email addresses for functions. Posters displayed in the village, the Village Website, Roundabout magazine, and the Village Hall Facebook page are used to promote functions.
- 6 Littlethorpe Village Website – Sandra Roberts
In 2018, 200 different visitors have used the website each month. The website is supported by the parish council, the village hall, the entertainments committee, and St Michael's church, and thanks were given to the regular contributors who supply the information of use to the readers. The definition of photographs has been reduced to hasten the downloading of images.
- 7 Reports from Village organisations and societies
- .1 Aggregate Industries – Geoff Storey
Mineral working is a transient use. Farmland has been restored to agriculture, the temporary bridge over the Ure has been relocated, slipways are in place and the water levels have risen for the sailing lake, and the new nature reserve will be handed over to Yorkshire Wildlife Trust before March 2019. A reed bed has been planted, and a hay meadow will provide nesting for birds. As well as works on the quarry site, an off-site landscaping fund has been available locally. The main sluice is installed, but there are sluices still to be built to manage floodwater. Handover is expected in autumn 2018.
The Chairman wished to record thanks to Geoff and Aggregate Industries. The Village had always been kept well-informed, there had been no complaints, no waste had been imported, and a valuable asset was being left that would add to the capacity of the flood plains.
- .2 White Rose Sailing Club – Peter Tarren
For 60 years, the sailing club has used the River Ure. There is a clubhouse above the 100-year flood level, Sunday afternoon racing, family sailing, and sailing lessons using the club Topper dinghies. Support boats with an outboard motor are available to assist sailors in difficulties. The open day is at 12:00 on 14 May.

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Very soon, the club will move its main activities to the new 27-acre lake left behind when Ripon quarry closes. Slipways are in place and the water level is rising under control of sluices from the river.

- .3 Littlethorpe and Sharow book club – Carol Edmonstone
Discussions at the book club meetings last about 2 hours and are held 10 times per year. The books chosen are mainly fiction.

- 8 The Chairman thanked Councillor Ian Galloway for his 16 years of service on the District Council representing Littlethorpe Parish amongst others. Due to boundary changes, Cllr Galloway is standing for Nidd Valley ward at the forthcoming local council elections. The meeting wished Cllr Galloway all the very best on behalf of the Parish Council and the Village.

- 9 Dates of next Annual Parish Meeting
 - .1 Between 1 March and 1 June inclusive 2019

The meeting finished at 20:30